

The Tragedie of Hamlet

This man shall set me packing,
I'll lugge the guts into the neighbour roome;
Mother good night indeed, this Counsaile
Is now most still, most secret, and most graue,
VWho was in life a most foolish prating knaue.
Come sir, to draw toward an end with you.
Good night mother.

Exit.

*Enter King, and Queene, with Rosencraus
and Gyldesterne.*

King. There's matter in these sighes, these profound heaues,
You must translate, tis fit we vnderstand them,
VWhere is your sonne?

Gert. Bestow this place on vs a lit le while.

Al mine owne Lord, what haue I seene to night?

King. VWhat *Gertrud*, how dooes *Hamlet*?

Gert. Mad as the sea and wind when both contend.

Which is the mightier in his lawlesse fit,

Behind the Arras hearing some thing stir,

Whips out his Rapier, cryes a Rat, a Rat,

And in this brainish apprehension kills

The vnsene good old man.

King. O heauy deed!

It had bene so with vs had we bin there,

His libertie is full of threats to all,

To you your selfe, to vs, to euery one,

Alas, how shal this bloody deed be answer'd?

It will be laid to vs, whose prouidence

Should haue kept short, restrain'd, and out of haue,

This mad young man; but so much was our loue,

We would not vnderstand what was most fit,

But like the owner of a foule disease

To keep it from divulging, let it feed

Euen on the pith of life; where is he gone?

Gert. To draw apart the body he hath kild,

Ore whom, his very madnesse like some ore

Among a minerall of metalls base,

Showes it selfe pure, a weeps for what is done.

King. *Gertrud*, come away,

Tha.

Prince of Denmarke.

The Sun no sooner shall the mountaines touch,
But we will ship him hence, and this vile deed
We must with all our Maiestie and skill *Enter Ros. and Gyldest.*
Both countenance and excuse. Ho *Gyldesterne*,
Friends both, go ioyne you with some further ayd,
Hamlet in madnesse hath *Polonius* slaine,
And from his mothers closet hath he drag'd him,
Go seeke him out speake faire and bring the body
Into the Chappell; I pray you hast in this,
Come *Gertrud*, wee'll call vp our wisest friends,
And let them know both what we meane to do
And whats vntimely done,
Whose whisper ore the worlds Diameter,
As leuell as the Cannon to his blank,
Transports his poysoned shot, may misse our name,
And hit the woundlesse ayre, O come away,
My soule is full of discord and dismay. *Exeunt.*

Enter Hamlet, Rosencraus and others.

Ha. Safely stowd, but softly, what noise, who calls on *Hamlet*?

O here they come.

Ros. What haue you done my Lord with the dead body?

Ham. Compounded it with dust whereto it is kin.

Ros. Tell vs where tis that we may take it thence,

And beare it to the Chappell.

Ham. Do not beleue it.

Ros. Beleue what?

Ham. That I can keep your counsaile and not mine owne, be-
sides to be demanded of a sponge, what replication should be
made by the sonne of a King.

Ros. Take you me for a sponge my Lord?

Ha. I sir, that sokes vp the Kings countenance, his rewards, his
authorities, but such Officers do the King best seruice in the end,
he keeps them like an apple in the corner of his iaw, first mouth'd
to be last swallowed, when he needs what you haue gleand, it is
but squeeing you, and sponge you shall be dry againe.

Ros. I vnderstand you not my Lord.

Ham. I am glad of it, a knauish speech sleeps in a foolish eare.

Ros. My Lord, you must tell vs where the body is, and go with
vs to the King.

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Hamlet